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1: Crit Rev Clin Lab Sci 1991;28(4):287-335

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## Osteocalcin: diagnostic methods and clinical applications.

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Osteocalcin is a small (Mr 5800), very interesting bone specific protein, synthesized by osteoblasts and measured in plasma as a biochemical indicator of bone formation. Many immunoassays for osteocalcin have been developed, including radio- and enzyme immunoassays, with the use of monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies. These are used in many different clinical settings, including bone, kidney, and liver diseases. However, there is a wide range of published values for plasma osteocalcin concentrations in control and patient samples and this has hindered a more widespread adoption of osteocalcin measurement by clinicians. This review discusses how various immunoassays for osteocalcin may contribute to the wide variation of published values and suggests approaches for the development of standardized assays. For example, epitope specificity and immunoreactivity with multiple forms of osteocalcin and osteocalcin peptides in plasma are discussed. It also includes a recent update on interesting clinical applications of osteocalcin.

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